Remarks

Claims 1-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1-33 have been withdrawn from examination. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application is respectfully requested.

1.   The Examiner has issued a restriction of invention requirement stating that two distinct inventions are claimed in the above-identified application. The Examiner has stated that claims 1-33 are drawn to a container management system, and claims 34-40 are drawn to a method of storing articles.

In reply to the restriction requirement of January 18, 2005, claims 34-40 drawn to a method of storing articles are elected and claims 1-33 drawn to a container management system are withdrawn from consideration.

2.   The Examiner has issued a restriction of species requirement stating that the above-identified application contains claims directed to three patentably distinct species. The Examiner has stated that Species I (claims 8, 26) is directed to a system wherein each of the magnetic lift assemblies is pneumatically driven by a separate air cylinder, Species II (claims 9, 25) is directed to a system wherein a plurality of magnetic lift assemblies is pneumatically driven by a plurality of air cylinders, and Species III (claims 10, 27) is directed to a system wherein a plurality of magnetic lift assemblies is pneumatically driven by a single air cylinder.

In reply to the restriction requirement of January 18, 2005, claims 8, 26, 9, 25, 10, and 27 directed toward Species I, II, and III, respectively, have been withdrawn from consideration.

In view of the amendments and arguments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayments associated with this application to Deposit Order Account No. 501581.

Respectfully submitted,
Anater, Jr. et al., Applicant(s)

Jennifer Mae Slonaker
Registration No. 50568
Attorney for Applicants
Phone: 717.399.1535
Facsimile: 717.291.4660